

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Claims 2, 5, and 11 have been withdrawn, and Claims 17-20 have been cancelled without prejudice. New Claims 21-24 have been added to present claims of varying scope. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 1-16 and 21-24 are currently pending.

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1-20 were subject to a Restriction/Election requirement. The Examiner stated:

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-16, drawn to a method for forming IC having trench isolation regions, classified in class 438, subclass 424.
- II. Claims 17-20, drawn to IC device, classified in class 257, subclass 506.

The Examiner also indicated that Applicants must elect a single species within Group I or II. The Examiner stated:

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species I (figs. 1-10) drawn to embodiment I.

Species II (figs. 11-15) drawn to embodiment II.

By this Amendment and Reply, the Applicants have elected Group I (Claims 1-16). Claims 17-20 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Additionally, the Applicants have elected Species I. Claims 3, 5, and 11 have been withdrawn pending allowance of a generic claim. The Applicants submit that Species I reads on Claims 1-2, 4, 6-10, and 12-16.

New Claims 21-24 have been presented to provide additional claims of varying scope. Species I is readable on new Claims 21-24.

The Applicants submit that pending independent Claims 1, 9, and 21 are generic to Species I and II, and that upon allowance of independent Claims 1, 9, and 21, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of withdrawn Claims 3, 5, and 11.


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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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